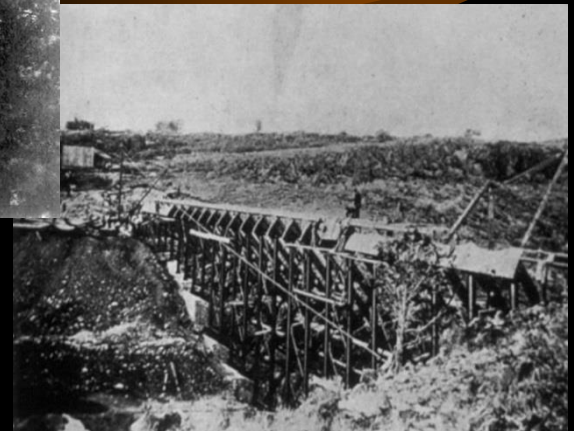


Northern Arizona's Ever Changing Forest Landscape: A Photographic Re-shoot Project



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Walker Lake 1875/2004



Notice the dramatic changes between the 1875 John Hillers photo and the 2004 photo. A wildfire in 1996 created the dead trees seen in the left hand side of the 2004 photo. Very little evidence of any management practices can be seen on the ground which makes this an important example of how our Forests have changed.

Getting there is easy, take Highway 180 north from Flagstaff to the north end of Hart Prairie Road and head east to Forest Road 9218. See https://www.trails.com/tcatalog_trail.aspx?trailid=HGS066-019 for more details.

Mount Elden 1875/2004



The photo on the left is an 1880s view of Mount Elden. On the right, is the same photo point taken in June 2008. Notice the expansive grasslands in the mid-foreground of the historic photograph. The photo point is by the sharp turn before you arrive at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff.

Laws Spring



Laws Spring is one of the few natural water sources on the west side of the Coconino Plateau. It was an important stop for prehistoric people as well as historic travelers (Alexander Gardiner Union Pacific RR Survey Crew Photo, 1868). To get to Laws Spring, take the Pittman Valley exit and follow Forest Road 74 north and turn right on Forest Road 141. Make first left north onto Forest Road 730 and follow signs to Laws Spring. You can learn more about the Beale Wagon Road at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/kaibab/recreation/recarea/?recid=11675&actid=50>

Laws Hill 1868/1988



Notice how the pinyon pine and juniper have taken over Laws Hill.

Russell Tank 1868/1988



Ca. 1868 (Alexander Gardiner photo)



1988

The photo on the left shows a member of the 1868 Union Pacific Railroad survey crew at Russell Tank, about 10 miles north of Ash Fork. Notice how the juniper trees have taken over the grassy flat.

Williams, Arizona 1890s/2012



Note how the ponderosa pine forest southwest of the town of Williams is much denser today than in the 1890s. The photo point is on the rocky basalt outcrop in the forest just southwest of Williams.

Hull Cabin early 1900s/2003



On top, Hull Cabin in the early 1900s. Below, same photo point taken in 2003. Hull Cabin, built in 1884 is the oldest remaining cabin in the Grand Canyon area. Today, the Kaibab National Forest has restored the cabin so that visitors can rent it and experience the Forest as early tourists did over 100 years ago! It is available for rental between April 1st and October 1st on recreation.gov

Hull Tank 1882/2002



Hull Tank is located near the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. It is one of the few water sources near the Canyon that is mentioned in historic documents. Today, oaks are now abundant and there are few gaps between the ponderosa pines. Hull Tank is located off Forest Road 307, just east of Hull Cabin.

Sitgreaves Mountain 1906/2012



Northwest side of Sitgreaves Mountain: March 3, 1906, prior to logging.



The photo point is about 1 mile southeast of the junction of Forest Road 74 and 141 north of the Pittman Valley exit on I-40.

Moqui Stage Station 1882/2002



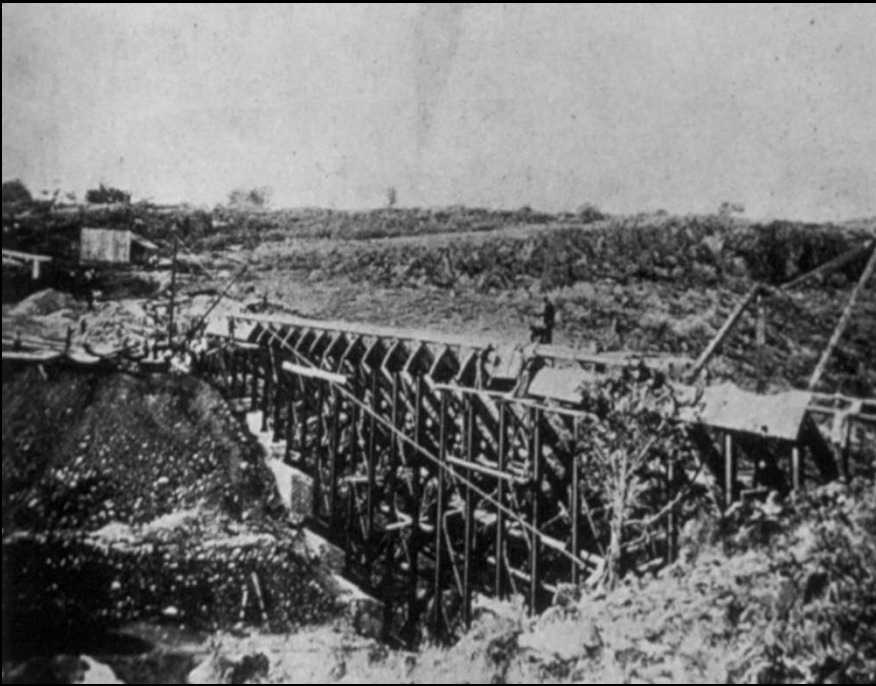
The Moqui Stage Station was an important stop for early travelers visiting the Grand Canyon via stage coach. There are still the remnants of a water cistern and a cabin. Junipers have greatly encroached on the grasslands in this area. Notice how in the current photo tree spacing has been minimized. Moqui Station is located off Forest Road 301, just west of the Arizona Trail.

West Williams (1890s/2003)



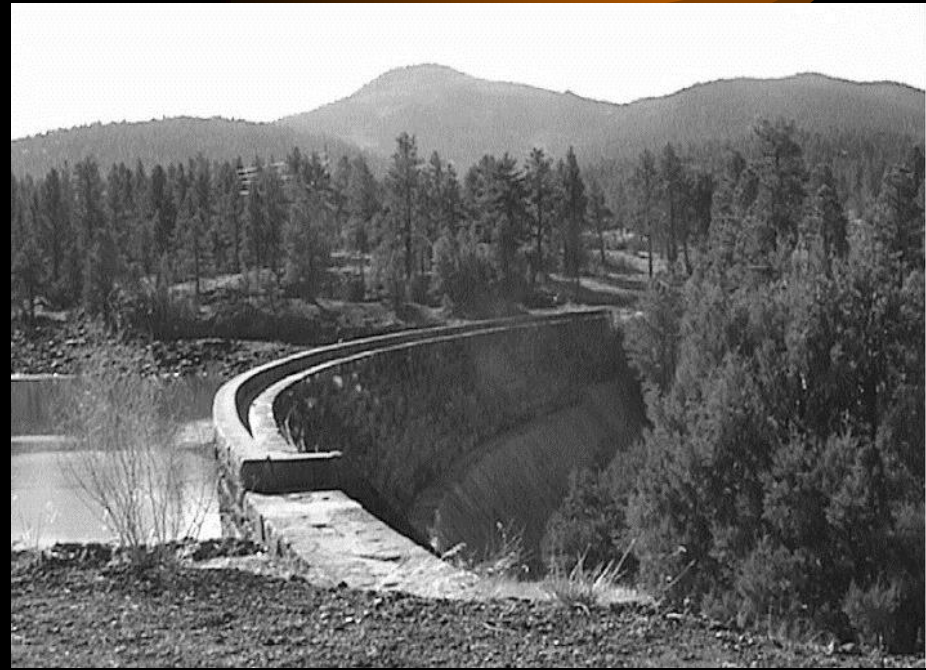
Early photo of logging mill west of Williams, Arizona. On right, same location at the site of the Williams Ranger District Office.

Steel Dam (1898/2013)



The first large steel dam in the world was constructed in semi-remote Johnson Canyon three miles east of Ashfork and fifteen miles west of Williams to supply water to the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad over 100 years ago. Francis H. Bainbridge, a civil engineer working for the railroad, invented and patented the steel dam, which was fabricated by the Wisconsin Bridge and Iron Company and shipped to the site for erection. Development of this new water supply for the railroad was a key to opening the door to the arid west.

Santa Fe Dam (1900s/2003)



Santa Fe Dam has always been one of the most critical water sources since the early days of Williams, Arizona. You can find the photo point by driving south on 4th street.

Coleman Lake (1910 vs 2003)



Coleman Lake is a wonderful wetland to watch for birds and other wildlife. To get there, travel 4th street in Williams south to Forest 108 and follow signs for short drive to the wetland.

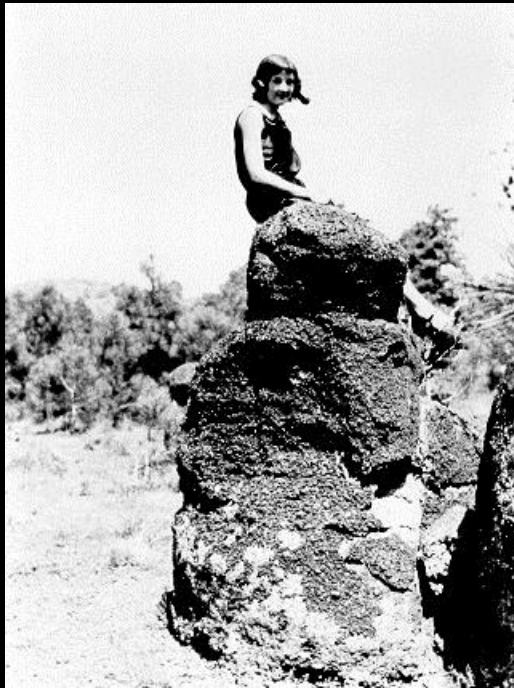
Johnson Canyon Tunnel 1910/1992



Johnson Canyon is located about 10 miles west of Williams, Arizona. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company originally chose Johnson Canyon as the route to get trains onto and off the Coconino Plateau in 1882. This route proved too treacherous for modern trains and was abandoned in 1960. The ponderosa pine trees seen in the 1910 postcard on the left are still alive in the drainage today. The most dramatic change is that scrub oak has filled the hill side in the recent photo on the right.

The old railroad grade is no longer drivable due to flooding, however, it is only a short 2.3 mile hike or bike to the photo point west of the Tunnel. Access is by taking Welch exit on I-40 and following Forest Road 6 north to Welch Siding. Remember if you visit, the tunnel is on private lands!

Elephant Rocks (1920s/2003)



To located the photo point, just drive to the Elephant Rocks golf course in Williams and you will see the landmark spot just past the entrance!

Route 66/I-40 1922/2003



Route 66 - 1922



I-40 - 2003

While few changes are evident in the foreground, notice how the grassland in front of Bill Williams Mountain is no longer visible in the 2003 photo. The photo point is located on east bound 1-40 just west of the Devil Dog exit.

Historic Route 66: Parks (1928/2011)



March 17, 1928 Bunion Derby: Maine (now Parks), Arizona: Andy Payne #43 (left), winner of the race and John Cronick #188 (right) – 10th Place. The photo point is in the Parks Community Garden, west of the Parks Store on Historic Route 66.

Pine Springs Ranch 1937/2003



Note the small trees on the left hand side of the photo. In the 2003 photo, the trees have filled in and blocked the view of Bixler Mountain, Williams, Arizona. The tallest tree is now a snag hidden by the dense forest. The photo point is located on Route 66. Take Devil Dog exit and drive south to Route 66. Make a right and head west about a half mile to find the spot.

Oak Hill Snow Play Area 1939/2012



Oak Hill Snowplay area is located 4 miles west of Parks, Arizona, on the south side of Route 66. You can also take a short 0.6 mile hike to visit the ancient petroglyphs at Keyhole Sink on the north side of the Mother Road.